

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-39 (cancelled).

40 (previously presented). The method of claim 48, wherein the changing step changes a color saturation.

41 (previously presented). The method of claim 52, wherein the altering step changes a color saturation.

42 (previously presented). The method of claim 52, wherein said rasterized image data is rasterized CMYK image data.

43 (previously presented). The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the altering changes a color saturation.

44 (previously presented). The apparatus of claim 56, wherein said rasterized print job is rasterized CMYK image data.

45 (cancelled).

46 (previously presented). The method of Claim 52, wherein said data is not rerasterized prior to said printing.

47 (cancelled).

48 (currently amended). An image processing method implemented in a printing system, the method comprising the steps of:
rasterizing image data of a print job to provide rasterized image data;

storing said rasterized image data in a job image buffer;
outputting said rasterized image data from said job image buffer to provide output data;

accepting input of operator's adjustments of said output data
following said outputting;

changing said output data in accordance with ~~an~~ said operator's adjustments;

halftoning said changed output data to provide halftone rendered data; and

printing said print job from said halftone rendered data;
wherein said changing is during said printing, thereby resulting in a corresponding contemporaneous change in appearance of said printed print job
wherein said halftoning further comprises performing at least first and second halftone processes in parallel on said output data to produce at least first and second halftoned data, respectively, and blending together said halftoned data in respective proportions determined from said changed output data.

49 (cancelled).

50 (currently amended). The method of claim 49 48 wherein said halftoning further comprises modifying said blended ~~first and second~~ halftoned data into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness.

51 (previously presented). The method of claim 48 wherein said rasterized image data is color separated contone gray level image data and said printing further comprises recording said halftone rendered data on a recording surface as a plurality of color separation images in superposed registered relationship and transferring said superposed color separation images to a receiver sheet to form a process color image.

52 (previously presented). A method of altering the appearance of a print job when printed, the method comprising the steps of:

rasterizing image data of the print job into one or more pages of rasterized image data;

separating said rasterized image data into separated rasterized contone gray level image data;

storing said separated rasterized image data in a job image buffer;

producing each of a plurality of documents sets, said producing of each said set including:

outputting said separated rasterized image data from said job image buffer to provide output data;

altering said output data in accordance with an operator's adjustments;

subjecting said altered output data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered data;

printing a document set from said halftone rendered data;

wherein said altering is in real-time during said printing of each of said sets and wherein said subjecting further comprises performing at least first and second halftone processes in parallel on said output data to produce at least first and second halftoned data, respectively, and blending together said halftoned data in respective proportions determined from said altered output data.

53 (cancelled).

54 (currently amended). The method of claim 53 52 wherein said halftoning further comprises modifying said blended ~~first and second~~ halftoned data into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness.

55 (previously presented). The method of claim 52 wherein said printing further comprises recording said halftone rendered data on a recording surface as a plurality of color separation images in superposed registered relationship and transferring said superposed color separation images to a receiver sheet to form a process color image.

56 (previously presented). An image processing system comprising:

a raster image processor rasterizing image data of a print job having a plurality of document sets;

a job image buffer storing said rasterized image data;

a printer printing each of said document sets of said print job; and

an image processor repeatedly receiving said rasterized image data from said job image buffer, changing said data in accordance with an operator's adjustments and halftoning said data, and then delivering said data to said printer for use in printing respective ones of said document sets;

wherein said halftoning further comprises performing at least first and second halftone processes in parallel on said output data to produce at least first and second halftoned data, respectively, and blending together said halftoned data in respective proportions determined from said changed output data.

57 (cancelled).

58 (currently amended). The method of claim 57 56 wherein said halftoning further comprises modifying said blended first and second halftoned data into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness.

59 (previously presented). The method of claim 56 wherein said rasterized print job is color separated contone gray level image data and said printing further comprises recording said print job on a recording surface of said printer as a plurality of color separation images in superposed registered relationship and transferring said superposed color separation images to a receiver sheet in said printer to form a process color image.